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25 April 1961

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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State Dept. review completed

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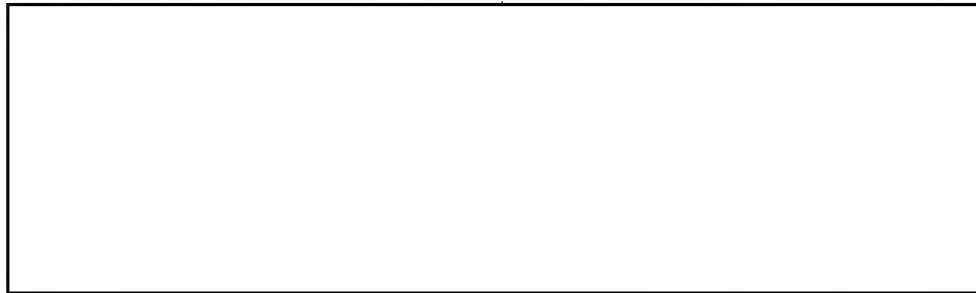
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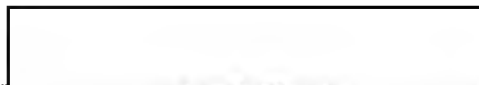
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3. Congo: Compromise solution on Matadi likely.
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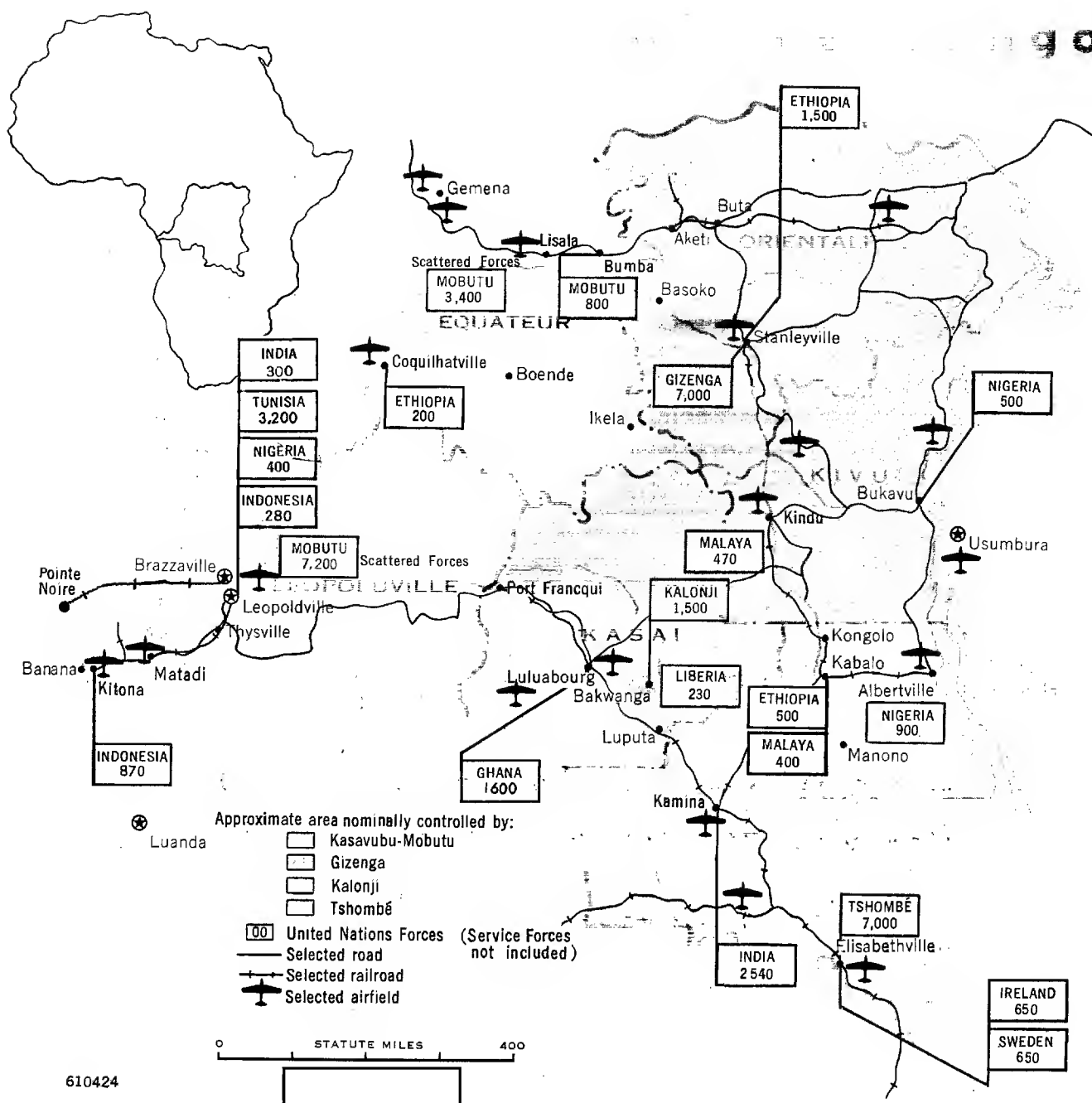


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Map Page

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Congo: Ambassador Timberlake reports from Leopoldville that a compromise solution concerning the return of UN troops to Matadi now appears likely. Acting UN chief Abbas is meeting with Kasavubu to work out final details. Kasavubu has hitherto objected to the UN's proposal that Nigerian police be permitted to return to Matadi to establish a UN presence there.

The UN Command feels that another focus of military activity in the Congo is likely to be Kasai Province, where Kalonji's army is regarded as a "menace" and where the threat of Baluba depredations continues. An influx of Baluba tribesmen into Kivu Province from northern Katanga also brings a threat of new violence in Kivu.

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DAILY BRIEF

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The Situation in the Congo

Acting UN representative Abbas reportedly has flown to meet with Kasavubu at Coquilhatville, where Congolese leaders are meeting to discuss modification of the Congo's political structure along lines agreed upon at Tananarive. A compromise settlement on Matadi would end what has become a sterile dispute for Kasavubu, and build up some credit with the UN which Kasavubu might employ to advantage on such issues as obtaining the withdrawal of UN representative Dayal in the Congo.

Reports that Gizenga has been supplanted by rebel army commander Lundula in Stanleyville are unconfirmed. The absence of any new military activity in the area suggests that the cease-fire announced by General Mobutu on 16 April may be at least partially effective.

The American Embassy in Leopoldville observes that contrary to the views expressed by UN representative Dayal, the Congo Army can no longer be regarded as the principal source of disorders in the Congo.

In Katanga, President Tshombé--who hitherto has largely ignored criticism of his regime as pro-Belgian--has granted to a South African firm, General Mining and Finance Corporation, mineral rights in an area comprising 8,100 square miles south of Elisabethville. The grant is the first to a non-Belgian firm in recent years.

[redacted] Tshombé is "physically and emotionally tired" as a result of his concern over military operations in northern Katanga and factional maneuverings within his government. He reportedly is under treatment by two witch doctors brought to Katanga from Brazzaville.)

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[redacted] representatives of pro-Gizenga youth groups in Leopoldville claim to have received assurances of support from the Indian contingent in Leopoldville for a coup against the Kasavubu government. Although Indian

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powers.]

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